FBIS DAILY REPORT

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COSTA MENDEZ COMMENTS ON FOREIGN POLICY

PY200015 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1615 GMT 19 Mar 82

[Text] Buenos Aires, 19 Mar (NA) -- Foreign Minister Nicanor Costa Mendez today met with President Galtieri and the economy and public works and service ministers. After the meeting, Costa Mendez said they carried out an extensive analysis of the Yacyreta issue, but he refused to reveal its details.

He said: "One or two meetings will still be necessary before the president makes a decision."

Talking to the reporters, Costa Mendez referred to a statement recently made by a U.S. Government spokesman about the missing persons in Argentina. Mendez explained that the spokesman said first that they do not want to intervene in Argentina's internal affairs although, he pointed out, "he then contradicted himself a little when he said that this government harbors the hope that the issue of the missing persons will be clarified."

Costa Mendez added: "We want to completely preserve our ability to make our own decision on this issue since it is an absolutely Argentine affair."

Concerning the detention and alleged beating suffered by two employees from the Loma Negra company in the hands of Chilean personnel, Costa Mendez said that a strong protest was lodged before the Chilean Government a week ago and that no answer has yet been received. However, he warned that thus far there is no evidence that those persons were beaten.

Costa Mendez also stressed the importance that the Argentine Foreign Ministry has attached to Latin America and the significant repercussions of the speech delivered by Under Secretary Felix Pena at the latest meeting held by the Latin American Integration Association.

He added that this and other attitudes adopted by San Martin Palace are an expression of Argentina's political, economic and commercial presence in Latin America.

Concerning the Argentine position toward El Salvador, he said he could make no specific announcement, but he pointed out that Argentina has always given priority to Latin American issues. He said: "El Salvador has some needs now and Argentina is willing to sell food to that country and even to provide some food for nothing, under a plan which has already been designed."

Concerning arms sales he said: "Argentina is a peaceful country and it has always favored disarmament. But we should not forget that half of the world is selling arms to the other half and I do not see why Argentina should not sell arms to El Salvador, should that country ask to buy them."

Then he said that he was unaware of any project aimed at cutting the supplies to the Malvinas Islands and that there was no news on that issue.

Finally, the foreign minister referred to the southern border dispute saying that the strategy adopted by the Argentine Government is being executed as planned and that negotiations are more intense and more cordial under the mediation, which we still deem to be very important.

El Salvador Top Priority

PY200102 Paris AFP in Spanish 2131 GMT 19 Mar 82

[Text] Buenos Aires, 19 Mar (AFP) -- Argentine Foreign Minister Nicanor Costa Mendez said here today that El Salvador is a top priority for Argentina. Costa Mendez also stated that he did not consider insulting U.S. Secretary of State Alexander Haig's recent statements, which indicated that Argentina was giving military aid to El Salvador. At a press conference given today at the Casa Rosada after a meeting with President Leopoldo Galtieri, Costa Mendez stated: Mr Haig must have made those statements without thinking, or perhaps his words were not properly quoted.

Although Costa Mendez stressed that Argentina is a peaceful country that has always supported disarmament movements, he contended that the world is divided in two and that therefore there is no reason why at a given time Argentina may not sell arms to legitimate governments such as El Salvador's.

However, the foreign minister held that Argentina has got nothing to say regarding El Salvador, although he conceded that it is at present a top priority for Argentina because it is undergoing a distressing situation. Costa Mendez said that Argentina is ready to sell food and goods to El Salvador; he expressed his desire that it find peace and that it will not be necessary to sell arms to it.

GOVERNMENT RECEIVES CHILEAN ANSWER TO PROTEST

PY181713 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1503 GMT 18 Mar 82

[Text] Buenos Aires, 18 Mar (NA) -- Last night the Argentine Foreign Ministry disclosed that it had received, through a telex sent by Gen Jose Montes, Argentine ambassador to Chile, the Chilean answer to the note of protest issued in view of statements by Chilean Foreign Relations Under Secretary Gen [as received] Ernesto Videla. San Martin Palace did not add any comments to the announcement it made and only pointed out that the note would be studied. The Argentine protest was made in view of statements by General Videla according to which Argentina had no right to sail in the Beagle Channel. According to information from Santiago, issued by international press agencies, the Chilean Government had allegedly denied that such statements had been made.

Chilean Envoy Summoned

PY201924 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 2335 GMT 19 Mar 82

[Text] Buenos Aires, 19 Mar (NA) -- It was learned in diplomatic circles that the Argentine Government today gave Chilean Ambassador Sergio Jarpa Reyes three notes of "protest." The content of these notes has not been disclosed. The Chilean ambassador went to San Martin Palace at the request of Carlos Dumont, director of the Latin American department, with whom he met for approximately 1 hour. The Foreign Ministry did not disclose any information regarding the meeting but a diplomatic source revealed that "subjects which are of public knowledge which do not reach the level of a protest" were discussed during the meeting. The source stated "The truth is that they are protests of the Argentine Foreign Ministry to the Chilean Government." Answering a journalist's question, the source explained that none of the notes of protest were related to the ill-treatment which two Argentine workers had been subject to in the Chilean city of Punta Arenas on 28 February.

As he was leaving San Martin Palace, Jarpa Reyes was approached by journalists but the ambassador did not give any definite answers. Clearly referring to the three envelopes he carried in his right hand he said: "I am doing the postman's job." He added that correspondence is also a means of dialogue," and refused to refer to the content of each envelope by stating that "I have to inform my government first." Nevertheless, it was learned through another source that each envelope contains an aide-memoire of the Argentine Foreign Ministry on the subjects discussed by Jarpa Reyes and Dumont.

COUNTRY TO BUY ENRICHED URANIUM FROM USSR

PY201654 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1603 GMT 20 Mar 82

[Text] Buenos Aires, 20 Mar (TELAM) -- Vice Adm Carlos Castro Madero, chairman of the National Atomic Energy Commission, confirmed today a news report that the Soviet Union would sell enriched uranium to Argentina.

Castro Madero confirmed the report during a talk with newsmen at government house at noon today after meeting with President Leopoldo Fortunato Galtieri. He said that he had come to government house in order to report to President Galtieri on the effects the budget cut, ordered by the national executive branch, will have on the Argentine nuclear plan.

More on Deal

PY201826 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1619 GMT 20 Mar 82

[Excerpts] Buenos Aires, 20 Mar (NA) -- Carlos Castro Madero, chairman of the National Atomic Energy Commission (CNEA), confirmed today that Argentina will send uranium to the Soviet Union for enrichment to be used at the reactor for radioisotope production, which is located in this capital. Castro Madero explained that the Argentine Government had made this decision because of the position taken by the United States which has refused to continue delivering that material as long as Argentina does not sign the guarantees of nuclear nonproliferation.

When asked about the report published today by the English-language morning paper Buenos Aires HERALD on the Argentine decision to buy enriched uranium from the Soviet Union, Castro Madero said that "it is correct," but he explained that the uranium is sent by Argentina to be enriched in that country.

He explained that "Argentina needs enriched uranium which has so far been delivered by the United States, but because of the nonproliferation act, ratified by that country, there are difficulties in shipping it to Argentina, so we have sought another supplier which is the Soviet Union" He explained that that socialist country "is ready to provide the enrichment services for our uranium so it can be used at our reactor producing radioisotopes."

When asked if this material is suitable for the manufacture of nuclear explosives he categorically denied such a possibility, saying that "it is out of the question, since it is a 20-percent enrichment." Castro Madero stressed that with that rate "it is impossible to make a nuclear explosive."

In conclusion, in reply to another question, he maintained that the position of the Argentine Government is "very clearly that of using nuclear energy exclusively for peaceful ends."

ARMY TO PURCHASE 27 MORE AUSTRIAN TANKS

PY212051 Buenos Aires HERALD in English 20 Mar 82 p 9

[Text] -- An arms deal for the purchase of 27 tanks from the Austrian Steyr Daimler Puch firm by the Argentine Army is to be clinched when a representative of the firm arrives in Buenos Aires next week, according to reports yesterday. The 30 million dollar deal follows the purchase of 56 tanks by the army from Steyr Daimler Puch last year. The reports also claim that Steyr Daimler Puch is to build a 10 million dollar plant for the maintenance of the tanks in Comodoro Rivadavia.

BRIEFS

WHEAT FOR USSR -- Bahia Blanca, 13 Mar (TELAM) -- A foreign cargo ship the Liberian ship Ima, which within the next few days will transport approximately 50,000 tons of wheat earmarked for the Soviet Union is anchored at the Ingeniero White Port. The Italian ship Luiggi Orlando is loading only 4,000 tons of wheat for the Soviet Union, and it is estimated that it will be replaced today by the Leandros, which will load 15,000 tons of wheat also for the Soviet Union. Finally, the Greek ship Mister Michael is at Pier 5-6. It will take on 50,000 tons of wheat for the Soviet Union. [Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1744 GMT 13 Mar 82 PY]

PAPER SAYS 'U.S. FORSAKING DEMOCRACY FOR SECURITY'

PY190215 La Paz PRESENCIA in Spanish 12 Mar 82 p 3

[Editorial: "The United States Chooses Wrongly"]

[Text] The United States is a country that has influence everywhere because it is the largest power that has ever emerged at a worldwide level. But such power has a counterpart; whatever the United States does, the responsibility it bears is also worldwide.

Such responsibility is evident, for it involves two principles that, in the United States, are vying for a leading role: national security and the safeguarding of democracy. The harmful actions stem from the fact that there are U.S. administrations -- much hailed from outside -- in practice forsake one principle for the other and they do not want to realize that these two principles are closely linked. The truth is that even the United States, despite its immense power, will not be able to survive without the support of other countries. If these countries turn against that colossus, the colossus will weaken, for it will have jeopardized its security. But, popular support will only be achieved if the United States becomes an advocate of democracy, not only for itself, but for all the other countries of the world.

One mistake made by the United States can have adverse effects on many other countries; this is the truth and there is no doubt about it. What is even more serious is that recently under the present administration, the United States is making one mistake after the other regarding the choosing of its friends and its enemies. It keeps making the same old mistake -- to quote but two examples -- of preferring the friendship of the Trujillos and of the Somozas instead of that of the Dominican and Nicaraguan peoples.

The wrong path is chosen by those who direct foreign policy and who insist on forsaking democracy for U.S. security, without noticing that democracy is the basis of security. This is what the northern power must take into account in order to adopt a sincere stance when self-proclaiming itself as the bastion of democracy, freedom and human dignity. If it does not realize this, because its rulers do not wish to do so, democracy will turn into a mere propaganda ritual and not into something that can be noted in everyday practice.

These aspects must be insisted upon now that the United States seems to have a diplomacy that makes mistakes in the choosing of friends, the more so when it does not take into account what other rulers bore in mind: the friendship of the people must be given priority over that of governments, especially when, as often happens in Third World countries, these governments are autocratic regimes that do not represent the people but are against them and oppress them.

Though wrong, it seems enough for a government to proclaim itself anticommunist for it to earn U.S. support. Dictatorial regimes are specialists in assuming these fictitious stances, which only attribute to communism capabilities it does not have. As a result of these tactics, governments receive aid with which they bolster themselves and acquire greater efficiency for repression. But the people who suffer the consequences must inevitably turn against these shady alliances that smear democracy. The internal repudiation of a government will easily turn into repudiation of its allies. This implies asserting two facts: that the United States will not manage to gain the friendship of the people but rather the opposite, and that these apparently anticommunist tactics will only lead to allowing communism to score points in its favor. In other words, the U.S. politicians who think exclusively of national security are the ones who expose it to the greatest dangers. Is this not what we can observe for example, in Latin America -- especially in the Central American nations -- in Africa and in other places, such as Iran? Have we not observed that the United States wins wherever it places democracy first?

FIGUEIREDO SPEAKS ON COMPLETION OF THIRD YEAR

PY181519 Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 16 Mar 82 p 4

[Brazilian President Joao Figueiredo speech upon completing his third year in office on 15 March in Brasilia]

[Excerpts] More than 1,000 days have passed since my inauguration as president of the republic in 1979. During that period the world has been the stage of the most grave events, particularly in the economic and social areas. Because of their worldwide repercussion, those events which shook the structure of the international economy made my normally complex task even more complex, more arduous, more demanding and worrisome. We live in the age of economics, with some sort of economic growth religion and anxiety for affluence. Without denying or minimizing the role of productivity in the context of the social and political universe, attention ought to be paid also to other phenomenona of capital influence in human relations.

The serious thing in our time is, however, the fact that it is not the young people who are causing a crisis or are subverting our values but instead they are forced into these problems, especially those of a moral nature. It is not improper then to state today, as had been done in ancient times, that the young people are being corrupted by philosophies and customs prevalent at this time. I do not know whether there exist among us philosophies -- even those advocating nihilism -- which may be contributing to the wave of dissolute customs we have been witnessing. I do know, however, that obscenities and pornography are commonplace because they are being displayed in full view with incredible audacity. The escalation of obcenities and pornography have reached such a proportion that on addressing the Brazilian people on this 15 March, the third anniversary of my government, I cannot keep silent in the face of the overwhelming moral disarray that is taking place before our eyes.

I would be neglecting my inescapable duties as chief of government if I did not raise my voice to warn the nation about the deleterious effects of both the wave of eroticism and the relaxation of customs upon large circles of our society.

It is then high time to conduct a crusade to defend our precious human asset against this upsurge of the most degrading forms of permissiveness. Here and now I call upon all the most responsible sectors of society -- irrespective of their philosophical, religious or political beliefs -- to take part in this crusade. In sum, I appeal to the generous, sensible hearts of the young people themselves, to all men and women of this country to whom I want to emphasize the imperative need to promote a far-reaching popular movement designed to preserve the moral and spiritual dogmas on which the identity of the civilization we are building rests.

JOURNALISTS DENOUNCE SALVADORAN KILLINGS

PY200140 Paris AFP in Spanish 2017 GMT 19 Mar 82

[Text] Rio de Janeiro, 19 Mar (AFP) -- Brazilian and Latin American journalists here today blamed the Salvadoran Government of President Napoleon Duarte "for the barbarous murders of four Dutch journalists by Salvadoran Army troops." In a message sent to the Salvadoran head of state, the Federation of Brazilian Journalists, the Federation of Latin American Journalists and the Rio de Janeiro Journalists Union expressed their apprehension and repudiation of the death threats made by a fascist organization which calls itself the anticommunist alliance of El Salvador against 35 foreign journalists, among them 2 Brazilians.

In their message, these organizations said that they were voicing the anxieties of international public opinion over the constant violations of human rights and genocide which have been verified in Duarte's country, and they place responsibility on his government for the safety of the threatened journalists in view of the barbarous murder of the Dutch journalists. In addition, they asked Napoleon Duarte's government to take measures for the safeguarding of the free exercising of their profession, legally punishing those responsible for such attacks on the freedom of information.

SUGAR TRADE WITH U.S. HURT BY REAGAN PLAN

PY191330 Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 6 Mar 82 p 15

[Excerpts] Hugo de Almeida, chairman of the Sugar and Alcohol Institute (IAA), announced yesterday that Brazil resumed its sugar sales abroad this week and that the IAA is negotiating a contract for supplying 500,000 tons of sugar over a 1-year period starting in June to five U.S. refineries. He added that he closed a deal for the sale of 80,000 tons of white sugar to Algeria and that it will be shipped in 2-kg bags.

Almeida believes that the negotiations with the U.S. refineries are very important at a time when the Reagan administration is declaring its intention to give preferential treatment to Caribbean and Central American producers.

Almeida said that the new policy in support of U.S. sugar producers -- effected through a government-fixed price which is much higher than world market prices and through tariffs on imported sugar -- will hurt Brazilian exports to the United States.

However, he remarked that Brazil will continue to supply sugar to the U.S. market, whose current imports reach approximately 3.5 million tons yearly, and that even in case U.S. production rises it will not be enough to cover internal needs.

He also said that the Reagan administration's intention to give preferential treatment to Central American and Caribbean sugar producers through exemption from import tariffs will not remove Brazil from the U.S. market. This is so because the short-term increase of sales from that region to the United States can only be 100,000 tons. In case investments are made in the production and manufacturing sectors in the region, the top medium-term increase will be 500,000 tons. Brazil supplies at present 30 percent of U.S. crystal sugar imports.

The IAA chairman also reported that according to a conservative estimate the Brazilian alcohol production in the 1982 harvest period extending from May to June will reach 4.8 billion liters. Of this total, 2.8 billion liters will be anhydrous alcohol to be used as fuel. This volume is 15 percent larger than that of the previous year. This output will ensure the 20 percent alcohol-gasoline mixture which will be adopted all over the country starting on 1 June 1982. Only the northeastern region is presently using the 20 percent mixture. In the south central region the mixture contains 15 percent alcohol.

PURCHASES OF OIL EQUIPMENT FROM U.S. STOPPED

PY171535 Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 13 Mar 82 p 19

[Excerpt] Petrobras will either reduce to a minimum or simply discontinue its purchases of oil equipment from the United States and will turn to the U.K. or France for its supplies instead. This decision has been promopted by the U.S. attitude prohibiting EXIMBANK -- with which Petrobras made many deals last year -- from financing these exports.

The matter was discussed yesterday when a British mission made up of oil and gas industry representatives talked with Petrobras Chairman Shigeaki Ueki about the possibility of Brazilian purchases from England. Nothing has been decided but Shigeaki Ueki admitted that possible imports from England and France are part of Petrobras' plans to diversify its suppliers.

RECENT TEXTILE PACT WITH U.S. CRITICIZED

PY172333 Rio de Janeiro LATIN AMERICA DAILY POST in English 17 Mar 82 p 7

[Text] Rio de Janeiro (DAILY POST) -- The director of the union of textile industries of the State of Sao Paulo, Robert Schoueri, criticized the recent textile agreement signed between the United States and Brazil. According to him the long-term agreement goes against the national interests. He explained: "Presently Brazilian textile industries are not able to export the desired quota; therefore, they are producing below their standards." A short-term agreement working both ways is more beneficial, because it will be the only way to export more than at the present time. A long-term contract, when operating at full capacity, affects the decrease in the exports quota.

Schoueri pointed out the lack of incentive given by the government to that sector of the industry, stating that the dollar situation did not favor Brazil, affecting exports. He also pointed out that American businessmen are stronger and compete with the Brazilian in the European market.

EMBRAER DELIVERS FIRST XINGU PLANES TO FRANCE

PY171840 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1145 GMT 17 Mar 82

[Text] Sao Paulo, 17 Mar (TELAM) -- The Brazilian aeronautics industry, delivered to France today the first two of a series of Xingu planes. The Xingu is a military pilot training plane that is manufactured in Sao Paulo. According to what EMBRAER reported today, this is part of a $60 million order for 41 training planes that was made by France. It was reported that two planes will be delivered per month. The Xingu is a sophisticated plane manufactured by Brazil that is already operating in the UK, Belgium, the Middle East and Colombia.

AMENDMENTS TO ELECTORAL LAW SUBMITTED TO CONGRESS

PY181252 Sao Paulo Radio Bandeirantes Network in Portuguese 1000 GMT 18 Mar 82

[Text] The Executive Branch has submitted to Congress a draft bill for two new amendments to the electoral law: one annulling the straight party ticket vote and the other extending the deadline for political affiliation for those politicians who disagree with the incorporation of the Popular Party to the Brazilian Democratic Mobilization Party. Those politicans who disagree with this incorporation have until August to join another party. The Presidential message establishes a deadline of 40 days for voting but will be approved by the time-limit mechanism once this deadline is up.

BRIEFS

GRAIN CROPS LOSS -- Agriculture Minister Amaury Stabile has reported that this year losses in soybean and rice crops will be 700,000 tons and 200,000 tons respectively, because of the drought that affected some regions of Rio Grande do Sul and Parana State. [Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 10 Feb 82 p 27 PY]

KUWAITI INVESTMENT -- The Kuwaiti Government will invest $180 million in an agricultural project in the Sao Francisco Valley. The project will be implemented by an association made up of the Kuwait Livestock Transport and Trading Company and the Arabian-Brazilian Investment Company. [Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 12 Feb 82 p 17 PY]

HAVANA CITES TURBAY INTERVIEW ON NAVAL PLAN

PA190334 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 19 Mar 82

[Text] Colombian President Julio Cesar Turbay Ayala has called for the creation of an inter-American naval force to prevent an alleged supply of arms to the revolutionary organizations of El Salvador from Cuba and Nicaragua, countries that have been accused by President Turbay of backing the Colombian guerrillas. In an interview published by the New York TIMES, Turbay Ayala explains that this naval force must be created by the OAS, in line with the 1947 Rio de Janeiro Treaty.

In this fashion, the Colombian president has joined U.S. President Ronald Reagan. On 4 March, President Reagan threatened at the OAS to resort to the Rio de Janeiro military pact to stage a collective armed intervention in the area.

Turbay Ayala denied that Colombia is taking part in the formation of a paramilitary force in Honduras for attacks on Nicaragua, with CIA sponsorship, as Washington reports indicate.

During the interview with the New York TIMES, the Colombian president said that Nicaragua is an expansionist force that represents a threat to the region and noted that an invasion of that country should not be carried out by the United States alone, but by the OAS, in order to prevent anti-U.S. feelings. These statements by Turbay Ayala give substance to the fears that Washington is accelerating its plans of armed intervention against Nicaragua, with the complicity of other governments. The statements also corroborate Nicaragua's charges in this regard.

Turbay Clarifies Statement

PA200448 Paris AFP in Spanish 0221 GMT 19 Mar 82

[Text] Bogota, 18 Mar (AFP) -- Colombian President Julio Cesar Turbay clarified tonight the meaning of a statement he made to the New York TIMES about the situation in Central America and the Caribbean and reiterated that he opposes any type of intervention. According to the report, which appeared in the U.S. paper today, Turbay reportedly suggested the creation of an inter-American naval force, under the aegis of the OAS, to deter the delivery of weapons from Cuba and Nicaragua to guerrillas in the region.

In statements to "24 Hours", a Bogota television newscast, the president said that perhaps the U.S. journalist "misunderstood him, due to the journalist's lack of control over the Spanish language."

Turbay added: "I told him that we have the Rio de Janeiro Treaty for Reciprocal Assistance and that, according to it, a nation can ask for the help of other OAS states whenever it feels threatened.

"And when one feels that this is necessary, one should not wait until the harmful consequences of an attack become a reality, but must act rapidly instead, to prevent annoying situations that could later develop into an international war of incalculable proportions."

The Colombian president emphasized: "This is my theory. We have an inter-American system that is one of the best regional systems. Within this system we have instruments to defend the continent and the countries in it from attacks by others. Then, going back to a well-known theory expressed by Alberto Lleras (former Colombian president and first OAS secretary), I would say that the OAS is what its member-states want it to be."

"If the OAS wants to act, if it wants to move in accordance with the responsibilities that concern it at the present moment, it can do so. I do not support acts of intervention of any kind. Intervention is negative, even if justified with the best pretexts," Turbay Ayala noted.

He immediately expressed his opposition to any kind of intervention from any country or group of countries outside the system by stressing: "What I suggest is that we move within the system for everything; this does not mean that I believe in invasions of any country, as I told the journalist and as he reported faithfully. We are interested in stopping the entry of revolution in Colombia, which, as everyone knows, has received a contribution in guerrillas and weapons from Cuba and Nicaragua."

In conclusion, the Colombian president denied that, in his interview with the U.S. paper, he accused the USSR Government of trying to undermine the governments of the region through Cuba and Nicaragua, offering the following explanation:

"Of course, I am not convinced that Cuba and Nicaragua, in acting as they are, are disavowing, displeasing or rejecting the USSR. It seems to me that the idea of expanding the revolution can be a point of agreement, without there existing in the USSR the manifestations that have been elicited by the statements made by officials of Cuba and Nicaragua."

LEMOS OUTLINES PLAN TO HELP CARIBBEAN BASIN

PA191335 Bogota Domestic Service in Spanish 2330 GMT 16 Mar 82

[Excerpts] Bogota -- Colombia's plan to aid the Caribbean countries was well received during the meeting of the Nassau group held on Sunday and Monday in New York City, the Foreign Ministry reported today. The plan was praised by most of the delegates, and U.S. Secretary of State Alexander Haig also commented favorably about it.

The plan, which was outlined by Colombian Foreign Minister Carlos Lemos Simmonds, proposes the creation of a special cooperation fund of up to $50 million. The Colombian Government's objective is to substantially increase the funds allocated to plans to develop the Caribbean. Since there are enough excellent technicians who are willing to serve in the countries of the Caribbean Basin, the establishment of such a fund would allow the consolidation of projects already underway and the undertaking of new projects, Lemos Simmonds said. He added that Colombia is willing to undertake joint projects with friendly governments who are willing to make financial contributions to complement this aid with the training of human resources. He said that among the first projects is the training of technicians and skilled laborers in several fields, such as agriculture, light and heavy industries, commerce and services.

Lemos Simmonds said that Colombia is aware of the difficult international payments situation of most of the Caribbean countries. He said that with the objective of alleviating this problem, Colombia maintains interbank deposits with banks of the Caribbean Basin countries, providing credits for commercial purposes. Colombia, he added, is in favor of strengthening other multilateral efforts in this regard.

Lemos Simmonds said that the Colombian private sector, particularly the private banks, can also contribute to helping the Caribbean. He said that the private banks are pleased with the Colombian Government's policy toward the Caribbean.

LEMOS NOTES U.S. APOLOGY FOR FISCHER COMMENT

PA200439 Bogota Emisoras CARACOL Network in Spanish 1215 GMT 19 Mar 82

[Text] Bogota -- The United States has offered its apologies for the embarrassing situation caused by statements made by State Department Spokesman Dean Fischer on the alleged use of Colombian airports for U.S. troops. Foreign Minister Carlos Lemos Simmonds reported this upon his return from New York, where he participated in a meeting of the Nassau Group, which analyzed the plan for aid to the Caribbean. In a statement to this station, Lemos Simmonds reported that U.S. Secretary of State Alexander Haig said that his country had never considered the possibility of establishing military bases in Colombia.

As for the tense situation in Nicaragua, the foreign minister said that the Colombian Government is concerned about the establishment of sophisticated bases in Colombian [as heard] territory. He said that when bases as large as those discovered in Nicaragua, a small and poor country, are built, it is because they will be used internationally. He noted: Our concern is even greater because this is a nation that claims a part of our territory. He added that he did not discuss any arms-related topics during his meeting with Haig. He also stressed that Colombian-Venezuelan relations were not discussed in his talks with Venezuelan Foreign Minister Jose Alberto Zambrano Velasco.

COMMUNIST EXPLAINS PARTY SPLIT, CHINA VISIT

PY170234 Asuncion Radio Primero de Marzo in Spanish 2145 GMT 16 Mar 82

[Excerpts] The arrest of members of the Communist Party of Paraguay has disturbed national public opinion. More details of the operations carried out by the Paraguayan police were made known in the investigations Police Department headquarters this afternoon.

Antonio Gonzalez Arce, alias Camarada Jesus, 31 years of age, from Concepcion, was pointed out as the leader of the group that operated mainly in the Caaguazu area. This group was made up of several cells which operated in several areas of the country. Asked about the Communist Party of Paraguay, Gonzalez Arce said:

[Begin Gonzalez recording] First of all, the Communist Party of Paraguay headed by Oscar Creydt differs a great deal from the party headed by [Obdulio] Barthe and Soler in the following points: The Communist Party of Paraguay headed by Oscar Creydt emphasizes the idea of raising people's awareness. In this regard the important matters include the distribution of publications, organizational matters, mobilization of the masses for their demands; prices of agricultural products on the farms; wage increases for factory workers in the cities. The idea is to sensitize the people through these claims in order to continue developing into a struggle.

In addition to the distribution of the newspaper, which plays an important role in this work, the party not only mobilizes the people but it also tries to organize them into cooperatives, unions and so on in order to reach the higher form of organization which is the guerrilla organizations, basically in the countryside and in the cities in the form of groups of self-defense. The group [words indistinct] emphasizes work with the masses, the working class and the peasants.

But the group of Barthe and Soler differs in the sense that they put more emphasis in the intellectual aspect and try to accommodate themselves to the situation. When Barthe and Soler were part of a single party they advocated armed struggle. They took part in the guerrilla action of 1960 and 1961. Then after the split they supported the peaceful path advocated by the USSR; they followed this peaceful path, the Chilean model. But lately, starting with the Havana conference, which I believe was held in 1975, they have again returned to armed struggle, but in the way of a coup taking advantage of any possibility of a military coup.

In this regard, for example, there are differences because by reading the documents of the party headed by Creydt, you will notice the party has no illusions about the possibility of a coup. This does not mean that it will not take advantage of this possibility, but it has no great illusion. This is why it concentrates primarily on working with the working class and the peasants. In this regard I would like to say that the party headed by Oscar Creydt is more dangerous because it is more radical; it goes for a more effective long range plans. Now, I do not mean to absolve the Barthe and Soler group in the current world struggle, because we know that the policies of Soviet imperialism are aggressive. [end recording]

Gonzalez Arce has visited several countries of Europe and Asia, mainly Communist China. He went there to get instructions on methods to be used in his campaign of sensitizing the masses. This is what he said:

[Begin Gonzalez recording] My trip to Argentina was legal. We went there to study. I have explained the reason for this trip to Argentina. I was disappointed because I could not get work or a way to study here. I have repeatedly explained this. My visit to Brazil was also legal. From Buenos Aires I visited Rio de Janeiro, Curitiba, Porto Alegre and Uruguayana. I suppose that you are mainly interested in my trip to China. I went to China through France. I was there for about 1 and 1/2 months visiting factories and agricultural communes. Then I spent about 15 days in Albania, about 2 days in Italy and France before I returned to Buenos Aires. Now, I do not remember the exact date of this trip, it was about mid-1975. [end recording]

LA TRIBUNA COMMENTS ON PCP CELL'S EXPOSURE

PY172130 Asuncion LA TRIBUNA in Spanish 17 Mar 82 p 5

[Editorial: "Opening the Eyes"]

[Text] The Investigation Department of the police has crowned with success a patient and difficult task: It has been able to arrest the members of various pro-Beijing communist cells as well as seizing various subversive materials.

It is necessary to know about the goals and objectives of this subversive organization in order to be able to appreciate this fact. Political struggle within the law and for the enforcement of democracy is quite different from politicking in order to develop subversion, terrorism and chaos within society in order to stir up the people's will through force.

Among the plentiful material seized by the police are some very revealing pamphlets, for example, on one of the documents, the following was written: "There is no other way out than to get ready for armed struggle of the masses against the regime."

Therefore, it means that the main objective of the group -- whose members were arrested -- is no other than to unleash a violent reaction within our society. In an armed struggle nobody respects anybody, whether they be old, young, rich or poor: the bomb planted by a subversive wounds everybody equally.

Is this the type of liberation which the Communist "Party" proposes as an objective for the Paraguayan citizen?

On the other hand, there is no doubt that these groups are nothing but the spearhead of an obscure imperialism. That is, the only purpose is to once again reduce us to the status of a colony of a world dominating center.

Although referring to the Russians, one document reads as follows: "This time Russian imperialism did not dare intervene directly as it did in Afghanistan out of fear of international public opinion and of its own peoples. Therefore, it relies on its agents within the army and the Polish United Worker's Party as it did with the Vietnamese militarist regime in order to annex Cambodia." It is quite surprising, but one communist sector accuses another clearly-communist sector of "imperialism." Therefore, it is quite obvious that the two sectors are struggling for the same objective: world domination of an imperialist nature.

The wide coverage given by the press indicates that a printing shop for subversive material and a hiding place for kidnapped persons were found in a house raised by the police. This means that the indoctrination and organization was set up with the sole purpose of carrying out terrorist action.

The case of the man whose alias is Jesus is enlightening because it shows their sources of recruits: disillusioned or bitter persons who are skillfully recruited. Even money was used for this purpose. There was a report that $800,000 was sent for this purpose; at the current exchange rate this is about 140 million guaranies.

Therefore, this is an efficiently set up and well-funded organization. Another slogan written in one of the exhibited documents says: "Let us create 'AN' [expansion unknown] committees in every place of work, house, study and rural areas." That is to say that under apparently legitimate demands, this type of organization was growing so that it could unleash violence at the appropriate time. Therefore this action cannot be considered just another police operation. On the contrary, the number of participants and the range of its explicit objectives clearly indicate the magnitude of its goals and the despicable aspect of its methodology. The outstanding aspect of all this is the effective action of the police, who were able to detect, apparently in time, the emergence of a force of retrogression which was directly threatening the tranquillity of the people. But no one should remain impassive to the objectives of the communist organization. The real democrats should assume the commitment of keeping their eyes open because, as can be seen, the threat is lurking.

NICARAGUAN ADMITS 'VOLUNTEERS' IN EL SALVADOR

PY200154 Paris AFP in Spanish 1946 GMT 19 Mar 82

[Text] Lima, 19 Mar (AFP) -- Nicaraguan Social Welfare Minister Antonio Befred arrived in Lima today in order to explain the actual situation in his country. Indicating that he will remain here for 5 days, he denied that Nicaragua or Cuba send guerrillas to El Salvador. However, he said that some Nicaraguan volunteers have gone to that country to struggle beside the insurgent forces. He also said that the Nicaraguan people are in solidarity with the Salvadoran people in their struggle for independence, and he assured that the Managua regime is democratic and the most progressive one in the Americas. In ending, he noted that he will meet with the Peruvian labor minister, Alfonso Grados, and that he expects to seek an audience with President Fernando Belaunde.

RETIRED OFFICERS REPORTEDLY INVOLVED WITH TERRORISTS

PY202206 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1950 GMT 20 Mar 82

[Text] Lima, 20 Mar (TELAM) -- Today Peruvian Prime Minister Manuel Ulloa stated that retired officers are involved in the terrorist attacks which took place in Ayacucho Department and other parts of the country. In statements to the media the minister pointed out that they are a group of officers who were opportunely discharged from the armed forces and that their only objective is to promote subversion, disorder and chaos.

Calling them delinquents who are destroying the country's productive apparatus, the minister pointed out that the task of destroying belongs to the cowards and that it goes against the task of constructing which belongs to the national majority.

Although he did not identify them Ulloa said that those officers, who were opportunely discharged from the armed forces, continually travel to nations that could be involved with subversive movements or that advocate anarchy.

In the meantime Piedad Pareja Pflucker, managing director of the Canarias mining enterprise, recently attacked by terrorists, held the government responsible for this attack. She said the government did not take the necessary measures, despite repeated warnings about the threat. According to statements published by the media, Pareja Pflucker stated that 50 extremists had seized from the mine's depot 30,000 feet of fuse and 16,200 blasting caps as well as some 60,000 sticks of dynamite, enough to blow up the cities of Lima, Callao and Balnearios. Pareja Pflucker said that the explosives had been stolen during an attack against five guards at the mine. The guards were wounded and no miner or leader offered any resistance. She also suggested that the theft of two radio telephones proves that the workers themselves, or people closely linked to them, could be the attackers.

The managing director added taht she had repeatedly requested police protection from the Interior Ministry because the mine depot could be assaulted at any time, but that her request had never been acknowledged.

Mrs Pareja Pflucker also disclosed that in 1981 some 100,000 sticks of dynamite got lost and that they could have been handed over by the miners to the terrorist group Shining Path.

Meanwhile, the daily LA PRENSA -- where explosives which were deactivated had been found before -- received another anonymous bomb threat. This led to a thorough search, but no bomb was found. Incendiary bombs, which damaged a vehicle, were thrown at the arsenal of the investigative policy in Lima. The police announced the arrest of three suspects.

In addition, and as part of the threat campaign, some 150 passengers aboard a plane of the Colombian airline Avianca experienced moments of anguish in view of a false bomb threat. After it was proven that there was no bomb, 1 and 1/2 hours later, the plane continued its journey. Three high tension towers were blown up with dynamite charges leaving Chongos Bajos and Jauja, in the center of Peru, without power. According to the police, the charges were planted by specialists that destroyed the towers.

CONTINUED WIDESPREAD TERRORIST ATTACKS REPORTED

PY192039 Paris AFP in Spanish 1514 GMT 19 Mar 82

[Text] Lima, 19 Mar (AFP) -- Further dynamite attacks took place against five large businesses in the nearby Callao port, while a gun shop was raided in Arequipa. This wave of violence comes in addition to the one in Ayacucho yesterday -- an area of violence which has been in a state of emergency since 3 March due to the tragic assault on a jail to facilitate the escape of 300 prisoners and which resulted in 16 deaths -- where a police post at the Canarias mine was attacked by 50 terrorists who wounded 4 policemen and a civilian.

The police reported that a German-made "Gela C" bomb of great explosive and incendiary power was deactivated in the building where the morning paper LA PRENSA and the afternoon paper ULTIMA HORA have their offices. Had the bomb exploded, its effects would have been catastrophic.

Another explosive device damaged the machinery of the Peru-Helvetica Company which has its offices in another building where the newspaper LA PRENSA is edited, therefore today's issue of the paper was not published. This is the second time that this newspaper has suffered terrorist attacks. On 11 March another explosive was found in time in the editorial room of the paper.

In the nearby port of Callao, a mob of about 30 people caused serious damage to the Diamante, Monterrey, Oeschle, Tia and Scala businesses. The mob threw explosives and tried to set them on fire while shouting "long live the armed struggle!"

The police reported that in Arequipa, 1,022 km south of Lima, two hooded individuals assaulted a gun shop, seizing four revolvers, a pistol and two telescopic sights. Two days ago in Huancavelica, 622 km southeast of Lima, the Canvalache mine was also attacked by 20 terrorists, who took 700 sticks of dynamite.

OUTLINE OF WAGE-PRICE AGREEMENT SIGNED IN LIMA

PY200222 Paris AFP in Spanish 1938 GMT 19 Mar 82

[Text] Lima, 19 Mar (AFP) -- The Peruvian Government, workers and businessmen tonight in Lima signed the outline of wage and price agreement aimed at combatting inflation.

This statement of intentions was produced by the National Council of Labor and Social Accord, made up of representatives of the government, businessmen and three of the four labor federations in the country.

Labor Minister Alfonso Grados, a great promoter of this agreement, said that the agreement is open to all sectors that want to join forces in order to preserve the wages of workers. The agreement obligates the signatories to fix the annual rate of inflation with a view to reducing the rise in the cost of living, while the workers and the businessmen would include in their collective agreements raises to compensate for the cost of living. In case the rate of inflation is greater than that agreed upon, the document continues, a safeguard clause will be applied in order to make the wage adjustments equal to the real increase in prices.

For its part, the government will limit the price rises of controlled articles to percentages in keeping with the inflation rate, at the same time as it maintains the level of taxes. In order to implement this agreement, a special work group and a technical committee will compose the pertinent drafts for later approval.

GOVERNMENT REJECTS TURBAY AYALA'S NAVAL PLAN

PA201414 Paris AFP in Spanish 2318 GMT 19 Mar 82

[Text] Caracas, 19 Mar (AFP) -- Venezuela has rejected, in principle, the creation of an inter-American naval force to stop the flow of weapons to the Central American guerrillas. This plan was allegedly suggested by Colombian President Julio Cesar Turbay Ayala in an interview granted to the New York TIMES.

"(This proposal) has only been heard of through the press and our first reaction is to reject it," Venezuelan Foreign Minister Jose Alberto Zambrano Velasco said. This was the first Latin American answer to the alleged proposal made by Turbay Ayala. Zambrano said that his country has voiced its "reservations and rejection" to proposals such as this, and in the case of the proposal made by the Colombian president, "a more complete and definite opinion would be given after fully studying it."

According to the New York TIMES, Turbay Ayala suggested that this inter-American naval force should be established by the OAS within the framework of the 1947 Rio de Janeiro inter-American Reciprocal Assistance Treaty.

This treaty is for the mutual defense of the Western hemisphere in the event of foreign aggression. It has been questioned by Latin American lawyers who have said that this concurrently opens a door for U.S. intervention in Latin America. This inter-American naval force, controlled by the OAS, would block the traffic of weapons from Cuba and Nicaragua to the Central American guerrillas, especially the Salvadoran guerrillas.

GRENADA'S BISHOP IN EL SALVADOR, ELECTIONS

PA202110 Paris AFP in Spanish 0043 GMT 19 Mar 82

[By Eduardo Perez Iribarne]

[Text] Caracas, 18 Mar (AFP) -- President Ronald Reagan's plan for aid to the Caribbean is a trick to justify future U.S. military intervention in the region, Grenada Prime Minister Maurice Bishop said today.

Bishop arrived in Caracas today for an official 7-hour visit and concluded his stay in the Venezuelan capital with a press conference after his noon meeting with President Luis Herrera Campins.

"The United States is trying to maintain its political and military power in the Caribbean in every way, which is why it has offered a plan for beggars; the $350 million Reagan offered for the entire region is the equivalent of the budget for NATO maneuvers in the Gulf of Mexico," Bishop pointed out.

"Those maneuvers have caused increased tension in the Caribbean and, in that sense, we agree with Venezuela in rejecting them as being against the Caribbean countries' interests. We hope that in the future European NATO allies will resist U.S. pressures to stage such actions," he said.

"We emphatically condemn the U.S. campaign against the people and Government of Nicaragua and express our full solidarity with that Central American nation's plans for development," he pointed out.

"We support Mexican President Jose Lopez Portillo's initiative on the crisis in Central America. We believe that he is a great statesman and a politician with great international prestige, who is deeply aware of the Central American situation," Bishop indicated.

"In any case, the Mexican plan to act as a mediator for the various parties in conflict in the Central American crisis must be accepted by all of the protagonists if it is to be truly effective," Bishop stated. "The junta of the Government of El Salvador cannot remain in power; we feel that the Revolutionary Democratic Front (FDR) represents the majority of Salvadorans and that, for this reason, it is a political force that must be taken into consideration in solving the crisis in that country," he added.

When questioned about elections, the prime minister said that "Grenada is taking its first steps toward holding elections, but we have not yet fixed a date. First we have to thoroughly analyze the current constitution, compare it to other constitutions and then take the necessary steps, through consultation, to achieve a truly popular and representative democracy, for the first time in the history of Grenada," he said. Bishop explained that Grenada is not participating in the Mexican-Venezuelan oil assistance program for the Caribbean and Central America because of technical problems and that its crude oil is imported from neighboring Trinidad and Tobago.

The Grenada prime minister criticized all propaganda "orchestrated and incited by the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) against the new Grenada airport at Punta Salines, which has the support and financing of 16 EEC members, the Arab world and Venezuela."

"That airport will not be a military base for any foreign country," Bishop concluded.

DISIP DENIES DETAINED HAITIANS ARE GUERRILLAS

PA201930 Paris AFP in Spanish 1551 GMT 20 Mar 82

[Text] Caracas, 20 Mar (AFP) -- Remberto Uzcategui, director of the political police, the Directorate of Intelligence and Prevention Services (DISIP), confirmed in Caracas today that the Haitians who were detained by the Venezuelan security forces are not guerrillas and they were not armed.

Uzcategui said that those citizens are not illegally in the country and he reported that in this case "there are no individuals under arrest but some are under investigation because there are suspicions that Haitians were gathering in our country to coordinate an invasion of Haiti in order to overthrow the Jean Claude Duvalier regime."

The national press reported in the middle of the week that based on information from government and police sources, a Haitian guerrilla cell had been disbanded at a farm in San Carlos district in Cojedes State, located some 350 km from Caracas. It was also reported that Luc B. Innocent, a Haitian citizen who has lived in Venezuela for many years, was arrested and was the alleged leader of the group. However, the DISIP director said that "this citizen was detained as he was preparing to travel to Miami. He was taken to police headquarters for questioning and was subsequently released because there are no charges against him."

GOVERNMENT MAY INCREASE OIL SALES TO U.S.

PA181730 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1647 GMT 16 Mar 82

[By Marcel Roo Gonzalez]

[Excerpts] Caracas, 16 Mar (EFE) -- According to the Venezuelan Government, their country and the United States may engage in a new round of oil negotiations. Venezuelan Foreign Affairs Minister Jose Alberto Zambrano Velasco spoke to U.S. Secretary of State Alexander Haig about the need for the United States to increase its oil purchases from Venezuela. In a statement to the nation on television last evening, Venezuelan President Luis Herrera Campins said that it is quite natural for Venezuela to look to the United States under the current circumstances. The president observed that in fact of "market sluggishness" due to lower prices and more competition, "it is natural for us to again focus on that market, where we enjoy the greatest advantage based on the long, stable and secure relationship we have kept with our U.S. clients." President Herrera said he was in contact with the U.S. Department of Energy in order to place more oil through government-to-government negotiations and to intensify the quest for private U.S. clients to increase their Venezuelan purchases.

LOPEZ PORTILLO MEETS WITH NICARAGUA'S RAMIREZ

FL192246 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 2230 GMT 19 Mar 82

[Text] Mexico City, 19 Mar (NOTIMEX) -- President Jose Lopez Portillo met briefly today with Sergio Ramirez, a member of the Nicaraguan Government junta, who informed him of Nicaragua's decision to ask the United Nations to take up the case of Central America. The meeting took place at the president's office in the official Los Pinos residence. The chief executive exchanged views with his visitors about the situation in Nicaragua and the Central American area. Sergio Ramirez reported on the Nicaraguan Government's decision to ask the UN Security Council for a special meeting on 23 March to examine the Central American problem. The Nicaraguan Government junta member was accompanied by his country's ambassador to Mexico, Aldo Diaz Lacayo.

Envoy's Comments

FL191535 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 0125 GMT 19 Mar 82

[Excerpt] Mexico City, 18 Mar (NOTIMEX) -- Nicaragua's ambassador to Mexico, Aldo Diaz Lacayo, said today that the situation in Nicaragua has come to the dangerous point of a preinvasion due to the fateful period marked by the Salvadoran elections. The diplomat explained that the feasibility of the invasion depends on the international will, and that at this historical moment, "there exists a decided political will to prevent it through the peace efforts of a great majority of countries led by Mexico." However, he said, there is a "very small" minority which insists in ending the crisis through war.

He said that this has led the more reactionary forces within the Reagan administration to work in a parallel manner, "agreeing on the one hand to peace talks while continuing with plans for aggression on the other." He stressed that peace will be ensured, clearly explaining how the situation of war which the Nicaraguan people have declared represents a united attitude and integral acceptance of the state of emergency.

UNIFIED SOCIALIST PARTY ELECTS LEADERSHIP

FL190242 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 0440 GMT 17 Mar 82

[Text] Mexico City, 16 Mar (NOTIMEX) -- The Central Committee of the Unified Socialist Party of Mexico (PSUM) today elected deputy Pablo Gomez as its secretary general. It also named the 21-member [as received] Political Committee headed by the secretary general. The committee members are Alejandro Gazcon, Roberto Jaramillo, Arnoldo Martinez, Roland Cordera, Gerardo Unzueta, Arturo Whali, Antonio Gershenson, Sabino Hernandez, Enrique Semo, Ramon Danzos Palomino, Pablo Pascual, Edmundo (Jordon), Marcos Leonel Posada, Salvador Castaneda, Carlos Sanchez Cardenas, Miguel (?Angel) Velazco, Manuel Stephens, Gilberto Rincon Gallardo and Ivan Garcia Solis.

Deputy Gazcon Mercado explained that Pablo Gomez had been the sole candidate and noted that the new secretary general was the man that the PSUM's pro-unity process required and he was elected with this view in mind. For his part, deputy Gomez remarked that the PSUM is really a new party and that everyone has identified with it to such an extent that the parties that created it no longer exist. He denied that the Revolutionary Socialist Party would pull out of the PSUM and pointed out that even its leader, Roberto Jaramillo, had urged its members to strengthen the PSUM.

The new 35-year-old PSUM leader is currently a federal deputy and was a member of the Mexican Communist Party from 1963 until its merger with the PSUM. Gomez is an economics graduate and professor. He was a student leader at Preparatory School No Two and president of the student association at the UNAM's [National Autonomous University of Mexico] School of Economics. He took part in the 1968 student movement.

EL SALVADOR

FOREIGN MINISTRY DENIES NICARAGUAN BOAT ATTACKED

PA192137 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2025 GMT 19 Mar 82

[Text] San Salvador, 19 Mar (ACAN-EFE) -- The Salvadoran Foreign Ministry issued a press communique today declaring that it is not true that a Salvadoran ship attacked a Nicaraguan ship in the Gulf of Fonseca. The Foreign Ministry reports that on 17 March, a Nicaraguan fishing boat entered Salvadoran territorial waters. When it was intercepted by a Salvadoran Coast Guard vessel, which wanted to conduct an inspection, the Nicaraguan boat attacked.

The communique notes that the Salvadoran ship "returned fire in legitimate defense of Salvadoran sovereignty and of the boat itself -- which was hit five times -- in conformity with international law. It is strange that a ship dedicated to fishing should sail in another country's territorial waters carrying armed military men, in contradiction to applicable regulations and logic," the Salvadoran Foreign Ministry states.

The communique adds: "We flatly reject the conclusions of the Government of Nicaragua, because they express a position that does not reflect the real situation and because they do not promote a decrease of the tension in the Central American area."

The Foreign Ministry communique adds: "We strongly protest the incursions of armed Nicaraguan ships into the territorial waters of El Salvador." The note adds that the arms race upon which Nicaragua has embarked has no precedent in the Central American region and that this "is the main cause of the increase of tension in the area, because it threatens stability and security and renders the solution of our countries' problems of underdevelopment more difficult."

GOVERNMENT DEPLORES DEATH OF DUTCH NEWSMEN

PA191301 Paris AFP in Spanish 0317 GMT 19 Mar 82

[Text] San Salvador, 18 Mar (AFP) -- The Salvadoran Armed Forces today issued here a communique in which they "profoundly deplore" the death of four Dutch newsmen in Santa Rita, Chalatenango Department, in northern El Salvador. The communique reiterates an appeal to journalists "not to imprudently take risks" by traveling to places "where there may be danger due to the subversive activities international communism is promoting in El Salvador."

According to the official communique, the journalists died at 1800 on Wednesday, 17 March, "during a 40-minute clash with a subversive column which was caught by a military detachment on patrol duty." The source said that "eight bodies were left at the scene when the rebels fled, four of whom identified by a judge as Dutch newsmen Jan Cornelis Kuiper, Jacobus Andries Koster, Hans Lodewijkter Laag and Jan Johannes Willimsen. [quotation mark as received]

In explaining the incident, the armed forces said that the 4th Brigade stationed in El Paraiso had learned from the area's inhabitants that armed groups frequently visited the area to obtain foodstuffs and a patrol was sent out the day of the clash. The communique adds that one of the soldiers sighted several armed individuals at a distance and appropriate precautions were taken but one of the soldiers was discovered by the rebels and the clash ensued. The armed forces said they did not know under what circumstances the four Dutch newsmen "had met and were traveling" with the guerrilla column.

The communique adds that "unfortunately, in cases like this, some of the activities which photographers, cameramen and correspondents carry out are beyond the armed forces' control."

The bodies of the four newsmen have been brought to San Salvador with another one which "did not have typical Salvadoran features." The army suspects he could be "another newsman or a mercenary."

The three other bodies were buried in Santa Rita after the examination required by law. It was reported that the guerrillas were carrying a FAL rifle, an M-16 rifle, a .22 cal pistol, two clips for FAL rifles, two for M-A [as received] and one Beretta pistol as well as the respective ammunition.

An army spokesman explained that the bodies of the four Dutch newsmen were taken to San Salvador's general cemetery following the autopsy and medical examination. "They will remain there until arrangements are made for repatriation to their country," he said.

Duarte To Investigate Deaths

PA210309 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 0220 GMT 21 Mar 82

[Excerpts] San Salvador, 20 Mar (LATIN-REUTER) -- President Jose Napoleon Duarte said today that he will personally lead the investigation into the deaths of four Dutch radio and television journalists. "Let us go to the area where they were killed and talk with the peasants there, to determine the real circumstances of their deaths," he told journalists.

Duarte said he believes the armed forces' report is true and he trusts that investigation will confirm it. President Duarte visited the hotel in San Salvador where most of the foreign journalists are staying and told them: "Let us work together to find the truth."

He said that in a country that is in a state of war it is difficult to guarantee the security of everyone, especially of journalists who must constantly move around to gather news. Duarte said that the journalists must face danger both when they are in the company of guerrillas and when they are with the security forces, because the two sides are fighting against each other and no one is safe.

[Paris AFP in Spanish at 2328 GMT 20 March also reports on President Duarte's visit to the hotel where the journalists are staying, adding that "Duarte reaffirmed, in the presence of 100 journalists who surrounded him at the hotel, that he maintains control over the armed forces and that he will instruct them to protect the journalists."]

SAN VICENTE GARRISON LAUNCHES SEARCH OPERATION

PA191621 San Salvador EL MUNDO in Spanish 17 Mar 82 p 1

[Text] Another military operation, coordinated by the 5th Infantry Brigade of San Vicente, with the participation of troops of three armed forces units garrisoned at the paracentral sector, was begun yesterday afternoon in the southern and eastern parts of the department. The operation sought to destroy guerrilla camps which have based operations in many villages and cantons.

It was reported from San Vicente that the operation began simultaneously along the lower Lempra River near El Pedregal ranch east of this city. From here the troops were deployed towards the central part of the department and advanced with artillery and air force support. It was reported early in the morning that the army was fighting in Las Pampas region covering all the eastern part of the department.

It was also reported that along the southern sector the armed forces encirclement action was in operation and that troops had been deployed in the Tecoluca sector in the San Jacinto, El Parado, San Ramon Grisal cantons and other points. The peasant population has been warned by cantonal patrols and members of the civilian defense to remain at home and not be alarmed by the artillery fire.

Other army forces operated along the Pan-American Highway covering villages and cantons such as El Junquillal, San Francisco Chamoco, San Nicolas, San Felipe and others.

Other towns that will be covered by the operation are La Joya, El Marquesado, Archichilco, Los Amates, Cerro el Cumbo and others.

The same sources reported from San Vincente that the removal of bodies of peasants found at the bottom of ravines along the Pan-American Highway at the region known as "Vueltas de la Leona" continues today.

UNGO SAYS NO SPECIAL ACTIONS PLANNED THIS WEEK

PA212357 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 2252 GMT 21 Mar 82

[Text] Managua, 21 Mar (LATIN-REUTER) -- Guillermo Ungo, president of the Revolutionary Democratic Front [FDR] of El Salvador, warned today that the civil war in El Salvador will continue "as long as the government does not want peace. It will continue before, during and after the elections next Sunday," he added at a news conference, referring to the planned constituent assembly elections.

The guerrillas have said that they will boycott the elections, which will be held in an atmosphere of increasing violence that has cost more than 30,000 lives in the last 2 years. The insurgent forces will not carry out special actions this week, with the exception of "maintaining the course of the war according to the circumstances and opportunities which present themselves in the field of battle," said Ungo.

The Salvadoran guerrilla spokesman, who will remain here for 4 days, told the press that he planned to meet here tomorrow with Mexican Foreign Secretary Jorge Castaneda and European congressmen who are arriving this week. Castaneda will be arriving from Havana, where he talked with Cuban Government officials today to brief them on his talks with U.S. Secretary of State Alexander Haig in New York on peace proposals for Central America, the Mexican Embassy reported. Castaneda will carry out a similar mission here, it added.

Referring to possible negotiations after the 28 March elections, Ungo said that "these would be more difficult than before...because the war will probably intensify. On one hand, the advance of the insurrection will continue, and on the other hand the military aid to the government is increasing, not only from the United States but from other countries which have conceded as much, such as Argentina," he added.

Ungo said the Ronald Reagan's government is beginning to consider the value of negotiations and "is convinced that the elections are not the solution because, euphemistically, it is already saying that these are the beginning of the solution."

"Reagan's government is treading on a knife edge. On the one hand, it is considering the alternative of intervention with the danger of internationalizing the conflict and on the other hand, it is considering the negotiations, which mean peace," he said.

Ungo said the FMLN-FDR alliance does not propose hegemonic control of the country as a result of the negotiations, but a government of broad participation. "That is, other economic, social and political sectors not represented in the FDR can join," he said.

Referring to U.S. charges regarding Nicaragua's role in the presumed arms traffic for the Salvadoran guerrillas, Ungo siad that if the Salvadoran rebels were receiving these weapons, "there would be 50,000 guerrillas in arms and not only 6,000."

He denied reports to the effect that the insurgent command is in Managua and said: "Everyone knows that a war cannot be directed by remote control. The FMLN has military leaders capable of leading the struggle in the field itself."

FMLN MARCIAL DELEGATION VISITS YUGOSLAVIA

For Belgrade reports on talks in Yugoslavia between a delegation of the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Forces Movement of El Salvador, led by Cayetano Carpio Marcial, and Yugoslav officials, see the Yugoslavia section of the 22 March Eastern Europe DAILY REPORT.

HONDURAS

FLEEING 'AGENT' ENTERS NICARAGUAN EMBASSY

PA190432 Tegucigalpa Voz de Honduras Network in Spanish 1145 GMT 18 Mar 82

[Text] Last night a Nicaraguan youth who was fleeing from the Honduran investigative police managed to take refuge in the Nicaraguan Embassy, eluding his pursuers, who then surrounded the building. The police were attempting to apprehend the youth after discovering that he was a Sandinist government agent who had managed to infiltrate one of the refugee camps in the western part of the country, which are financed by the Honduran Government.

According to information obtained by this station's newsmen, after the Nicaraguan youth realized that he was being followed he notified the Nicaraguan Embassy by phone and requested that a vehicle be sent to pick him up. The Nicaraguan ambassador granted his request and a diplomatic vehicle was dispatched. In this manner he managed to reach the embassy.

This report was denied by the Nicaraguan Embassy. The ambassador said that nothing unusual had taken place there and that the police had not even come close to the embassy. However, several persons who saw the police in the area said that a few minutes earlier a car had pulled up and dropped off a youth who hurriedly entered the embassy. They did not describe the youth, however. Other reports obtained last night said that the youth was a Sandinist agent who had infiltrated government offices to obtain information on security devices and who sought refuge in the Nicaraguan Embassy after his identity was discovered.

Regardless of which of these reports is true, the deployment of police around the Nicaraguan Embassy was confirmed by residents of the neighboring houses and by persons who were in the vicinity last night. Last night, several concerned Hondurans telephoned this station to say that there were Nicaraguans working in various government offices or institutions who are allegedly in exile because of the Sandinist government, but who might be agents of Commander Tomas Borge's intellignece corps.

Arrested at Airport

PA192323 Tegucigalpa Cadena Audio Video in Spanish 1145 GMT 19 Mar 82

[Summary] "Noel Ernesto de Jesus Vasquez, the alleged Nicaraguan counterrevolutionary who sought refuge at the Nicaraguan Embassy, could be the man who escaped from the cells of the Department of National Investigation [DIN] after he was captured on the border with Nicaragua along with two Salvadoran guerrillas. One of those who tried to escape was killed by the police while trying to flee. We have this report by journalist (Jose Danilo Izaguirre):

[Begin relay] Two Salvadoran guerrillas, who were experts in bank holdups and who were captured by DIN agents, escaped from DIN cells in a very rapid action. A third guerrilla was shot to death. "The Salvadoran guerrillas were captured on the border with Nicaragua as they tried to enter the country to rob banks and kidnap people in Honduras, in order to increase the funds of Salvadoran groups, according to them." (Luis Eduardo Medrano Portillo) and (Jose Guillermo Serrano), the two Salvadorans, were arrested on 12 March in the border region.

They were taken to the DIN jail in Tegucigalpa, where they tried to promote a mutiny but received no response from the other inmates. Thus, they decided to carry out a plan that resulted in the escape of one.

According to reports, the man who escaped sought refuge in a nearby residence, passing himself off as a doctor and getting the support of a compatriot in fleeing. "It was said that the fugitive was trained in Cuba for this kind of action. He is approximately 45 or 50 years old and is an expert in bank holdups and guerrilla plans." He was trying to organize a band of assailants in the country, obeying the orders of his comrades in the struggle for Salvadoran liberation.

Everything seems to indicate that there is some relationship between these guerrillas and Noel Ernesto de Jesus Vasquez, who sought refuge in the Nicaraguan Embassy.

"In a news conference, Vasquez said that he is a member of a Somozist group that is trying to restore order in Nicaragua. According to reports gathered by this station, the man who sought asylum at the Nicaraguan Embassy and who was arrested by the police at Toncontin International Airport could have some relationship with the two persons who were arrested on the border with Nicaragua, in the country's southern region. This means that there are three people involved in the jail escape." "We will continue to investigate this report and will give you more details later, because the characteristics of the man who escaped from the DIN jail at 0400 on Saturday coincide with those of Vasquez, according to reliable sources." [end relay]

Government Guarantees Safety

PA200442 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0052 GMT 20 Mar 82

[Text] Tegucigalpa, 19 Mar (ACAN-EFE) -- The Honduran Government announced today that it guarantees the safety of Nicaraguan citizen Noel Ernesto de Jesus Vasquez, who was arrested yesterday at this country's airport. Vasquez had sought refuge at the Nicaraguan Embassy some days earlier and had been taken to the airport by his country's Ambassador Guillermo Suarez Rivas, who had previously informed the Foreign Ministry of Vasquez' upcoming departure. The police had been looking for Vasquez, whom they considered dangerous to national security. For this reason at the Nicaraguan had sought refuge at his country's embassy.

Before his arrest, Vasquez spoke to newsmen, saying that he had escaped from a counter-revolutionary training camp run by Argentines, where there was almost nothing but tuberculosis, diarrhea and ear infections. He also said that he had seen the installations of a clandestine radio station that beamed its broadcasts to Nicaragua and called itself "Radio 15 September." In addition, he claimed to have seen arsenals for the Nicaraguan counter-revolution and said that if the Hondurans tuned in "Radio Sandino" they would learn more about the matter.

Honduran Foreign Minister Edgardo Paz Barnica said that Vasquez was arrested because he had entered Honduras with a Salvadoran passport, though the Nicaraguan Embassy claims he is a Nicaraguan, and noted that he is being strictly investigated. "We hope that this incident will not be an obstacle to Honduras' intention of increasing and maintaining the most cordial relations with Nicaragua," the foreign minister said.

Paz Barnica also reasserted that the Honduran Government respects the self-determination of peoples and will not participate in illegal activities against neighboring countries.

News Conference

PA202131 Tegucigalpa Cadena Audio Video in Spanish 1145 GMT 19 Mar 82

[Text] Noel de Jesus Vasquez said at a news conference that he was infiltrated into our territory.

He said that the counterrevolutionary groups training in Honduras are headed by former Somozist colonels Manuel Lagos and Enrique Bermudez. He noted that he was hired by the counterrevolutionaries while in San Francisco, California, in October 1981, and was told that he would be working as a doctor's aide, adding that he knows a little bit about medicine.

Vasquez said that he was going to be sent to the Mosquitia, but that this didn't work because he became afraid when the Argentines put a price on his life; he therefore sought protection at the Nicaraguan Embassy. Vasquez stressed that the counterrevolutionaries are planning to kill Msgr Miguel Obando y Bravo and opposition leader Alfonso Robelo.

The alleged Sandinist spy also declared that the counterrevolutionaries' station, Radio 15 September, is operating in El Hatillo, a few kilometers from Tegucigalpa. He stated that the plans were made against him because the counterrevolutionaries had noticed that he was not being too receptive to the plans to involve Honduras in a war with Nicaragua.

He added that the counterrevolutionaries' general staff also includes 22 Argentine officers who have their general headquarters near the Pepsi Cola bottling company on the road to Mateo, where the former guardsmen are ill because of bad treatment by (Marcos Ortiz), a henchman who bombed Chinandega. Vasquez reported that the invasion of Nicaragua is planned for June and that the counterrevolutionaries have sophisticated weapons for this purpose.

As we all know, Vasquez was unable to leave the country because he was arrested by immigration agents, due to the fact that his true identification is not clear. Certain Honduran authorities have said that Vasquez is a Sandinist agent who was infiltrated into Honduran territory.

NICARAGUA

COMMANDERS ARCE, ORTEGA MEET WITH FIDEL CASTRO

PA192028 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 19 Mar 82

[Text] GRANMA reported in Havana today that Cuba and Nicaragua have exchanged views, at the highest government and political level, on the critical situation in Central America and the Caribbean. GRANMA added that Cuban President Fidel Castro met last night with Commanders of the Revolution Bayardo Arce, coordinator of the FSLN Political Commission, and Daniel Ortega Saavedra, coordinator of the Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction.

Press Reports

PA191530 Paris AFP in Spanish 1451 GMT 19 Mar 82

[Text] Managua, 19 Mar (AFP) -- Nicaragua and Cuba held talks at the highest level "on the strife-torn situation in Central America and the Caribbean," last Wednesday in Havana, it was learned here.

Daniel Ortega, coordinator of the Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction and Bayardo Arce, FSLN political commission coordinator, met with Cuban President Fidel Castro, local press reported. The news was carried here by BARRICADA, the official FSLN publication, and by EL NUEVO DIARIO, without many details.

The same papers also reported that Julio Lopez, FSLN International Relations Department director, left for New York early in the week, where he met with Jeane Kirkpatrick, U.S. ambassador to the United Nations; Jorge Castaneda, Mexican foreign relations secretary and Mark MacGuigan, Canadian secretary of state for external affairs.

It was also learned that Jose Leon Talavera, an official of the FSLN international department, yesterday finished his talks with Costa Rican and Panamanian Government officials, which were held in the capitals of these two countries. The subject of these talks were not disclosed.

UN Meeting Requested

PA191941 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 1838 GMT 19 Mar 82

[Text] Nicaragua has asked the United Nations to call an urgent meeting of the UN Security Council. We have just received from the Foreign Ministry the full text of the letter sent to UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar requesting an urgent meeting of the Security Council. The letter reads:

Year of unity in the face of aggression

Managua, 19 March 1982

Mr. Secretary General:

The continuous worsening of the tension in Central America with the increasingly more imminent danger of a large-scale military intervention by the U.S. Armed Forces is a dangerous threat to the independence and sovereignty of the Central American nations and to international peace and security.

On several occasions and at different forums, top U.S. officials, including the president, the secretary of state, and the secretary of defense have made statements in which they openly claim for themselves -- in a totally illegal and arbitrary manner -- the so-called right to intervene in the civil war that is taking place in El Salvador and to threaten that they will take interventionist and aggressive actions against Nicaragua.

On every occasion the U.S. officials have reiterated their willingness to employ any method to achieve their perverse objectives, without excluding the use of military force or the covert and criminal resources of the Central Intelligence Agency.

The systematic repetition of these aggressive statements seriously affects the normal development of international relations and brings to mind the unfortunate period in which Yankee imperialism invaded Nicaragua and forced our people, led by Augusto Cesar Sandino, to engage in a long, bloody and heroic war of resistance.

These statements allow one to surmise that the current U.S. administration, totally ignoring the changes that have taken place in our area and in the world, is trying to revive gunboat diplomacy which, as in the past, would now once again be confronted with the firm and steadfast resistance of the Central American peoples.

In its interventionist strategy the U.S. Government arrogantly ignores the broad international opposition to its policy which has been expressed by many governments, institutions and prominent persons from all regions and of varied ideological currents, and even ignores the growing concern that the U.S. public has shown over this issue.

Recently, Mexican President Jose Lopez Portillo presented constructive proposals to solve the fundamental problems of the region, which received a favorable response from my government and many others. However, it has not yet received a positive reaction from the U.S. authorities.

Nor did the Washington Government accept the plan prepared by the FDR and the FMLN of El Salvador which I had the honor of presenting to the 36th UN General Assembly meeting on 7 October 1981, which would have allowed a negotiated approach to the Salvadoran conflict which would have led to the reinstatement of peace.

The warmongering statements of the U.S. authorities are accompanied by specific actions which clearly indicate the intent to attack Nicaragua and to intervene directly in El Salvador.

It is publicly well known that with the connivance of U.S. officials, armed gangs of former Somozist guardsmen and other mercenary groups are being organized and trained on U.S. soil with the admitted purpose of invading Nicaragua. Individuals with the same background, supported by the CIA, carry out frequent attacks against our country from Honduran territory where they are preparing to carry out attacks on a larger scale.

As has been publicly revealed, the U.S. Government gave $19.9 million to the CIA to finance subversive activities within Nicaragua to try to destabilize and overthrow my government by force. Yesterday, military, naval and air maneuvers in the Caribbean area came to an end, but others are scheduled that will bring a heretofore unseen military deployment in the waters of Central America, which can only be interpreted as an attempt to intimidate the countries of the area.

To carry out these aggressive plans, the United States is using members of the armed forces of some Latin American countries that it would like to drag into a military adventure of unforeseeable consequences for the entire continent.

Last week, on Tuesday, 9 March, a press conference was called at the State Department to exhibit a number of photographs -- taken during reprehensible acts of espionage and flagrantly violating our air space -- with the objective of convincing the U.S. and world public of the danger that an alleged Nicaraguan arms buildup poses for the peace in the Central American region.

As the New York TIMES said in its editorial on 11 March 1982, in no way did these revelations prove the existence of anything in Nicaragua that could be cause for alarm. It was merely a propaganda manuever that the Reagan administration had prepared to try to create the right atmosphere for the public to accept an invasion of Nicaragua.

The most important event in this slanderous propaganda campaign blew up in their faces when on Friday, 12 March, the youth, Orlando Jose Tardencilla Espinoza, told the media that he had been taken illegally to the United States so that he could declare, under threat of death, a number of lies that implicated Nicaragua in the Salvadoran conflict.

This very week, although the Castaneda-Haig talks on the Central American crisis had not yet ended, terrorists, financed by the CIA who operate from Honduran territory, blew up two of our main bridges in the early morning hours of Monday, 15 March.

On 15 March while a small fishing boat was sailing in Nicaraguan waters in the Gulf of Fonseca, Juan Jose Martinez Reyes and (David Atila Chacon Ruiz), Nicaraguan citizens, were attacked and machinegunned by a coast guard vessel from the Honduran Navy. Their whereabouts are still unknown.

Days later, on 17 March, there was a new attack on another Nicaraguan fishing boat in Nicaraguan territorial waters in the same Gulf of Fonseca. On this occasion, it was a Salvadoran Coast Guard vessel that perpetrated the attack, seriously wounding Nicaraguan citizen Bernardo Davila Blanco. All of these attacks have the deliberate objective of creating the necessary conditions to justify foreign intervention in Nicaragua.

A careful analysis of the circumstances surrounding all of these incidents led us to the conclusion that an invasion of Nicaragua is imminent and compelled us to decree a state of emergency.

It is particularly censurable that a permanent member of the UN Security Council, the United States, is flagrantly violating the UN Charter and is behaving in a manner that contravenes the principles and objectives of the United Nations.

The government and people of Nicaragua fervently desire peace. We want peace so that we can rebuild a country that was seriously affected by the long years of exploitation and injustice of the Somozist tyranny supported by the mistaken policy of the United States of America. But, with the same determination and at whatever price is necessary we will know how to defend our independence and sovereignty.

The international community has the duty to act to prevent a new attack against the peoples of Central America and to preserve peace. Due to the seriousness of the situation, I ask you, Mr Secretary General, to take the necessary steps so that the Security Council may be convoked to an urgent meeting to listen to the exposition that, in the name of the Government and people of Nicaragua, I personally will make.

Trusting that you will take the necessary measures so as to avoid the conflagration that today seems imminent as a result of that decision to intervene in Central America, I take advantage of this opportunity to reiterate to Your Excellency my highest esteem and consideration.

[signed] Daniel Ortega Saavedra, coordinator of the Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction.

'Diplomatic Offensive'

PA210223 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 21 Mar 82

[Text] The Revolutionary Government of National Reconstruction and the FSLN National Directorate accelerated a diplomatic offensive this week to prevent an imminent direct attack by the U.S. imperialist power against the weak but worthy Nicaraguan nation. As part of this diplomatic offensive, Sergio Ramirez Mercado, government junta member, traveled to Mexico and met with President Jose Lopez Portillo, to whom he explained the dangerous situation affecting the Sandinist people's revolution and the causes for a request that the UN Secretary General call a meeting of the Security Council.

Revolutionary Commander Daniel Ortega Saavedra, coordinator of the government junta, and Revolutionary Commander Bayardo Arce Castano met in Havana with Commander Fidel Castro, prime minister of Cuba, for an analysis of the dangerous situation existing in Central America and the Caribbean. Other bilateral diplomatic talks are underway with other governments to promote a meeting of the UN Security Council, at which Commander Daniel Ortega would explain the details of the reported aggression and the evident danger of an internationalization of violence in Central America.

Ortega Message to Castro

PA192359 Paris AFP in Spanish 2333 GMT 19 Mar 82

[Text] United Nations, 19 Mar (AFP) -- The Cuban delegation to the United Nations published a message tonight addressed by Commander Ortega Saavedra, coordinator of the Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction of Nicaragua, to Cuban President Fidel Castro, advising him that Nicaragua will resort to the Security Council "with a will for peace." In this message, Ortega also notes that the Security Council must act so that "the imperialists' objectives are nullified and so that they cannot provoke a war whose consequences would be unforeseeable."

The Security Council, Commander Ortega Saavedra adds, must create "conditions that promote the search for peaceful solutions to the problems in the region, through negotiations similar to those that Nicaragua and other governments have consistently recommended."

Commander Ortega assured Castro that if their efforts fail, "Nicaragua will fiercely and energetically resist any invasion of its territory. I am convinced that the peoples of Central America would reject, with the same strength, any attempt to attack their sacred national rights," Commander Ortega added.

He concluded by asking Castro to convey his message to all heads of state of the Nonaligned Countries, whose solidarity is requested "at this decisive moment in our history."

RAMIREZ DISCUSSES MEETING WITH LOPEZ PORTILLO

PA200226 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 20 Mar 82

[Text] Our government of national reconstruction, through Companero Sergio Ramirez Mercado, explained to Mexican President Jose Lopez Portillo today the serious threats hovering over our fatherland and reiterated its support for the Mexican peace proposal. Companero Ramirez Mercado left for Mexico earlier today. Upon his return to Augusto Cesar Sandino Airport this afternoon, he made a statement to the local and foreign press about his meeting with the Mexican president.

[Begin recording] I (?flew to) Mexico this morning, having been appointed by the government junta to meet with President Lopez Portillo and to inform him that our country will go to the UN Security Council to explain the serious threats of aggression hovering over our fatherland. I gave him a copy of the statement that Commander Daniel Ortega addressed to Javier Perez de Cuellar last night on behalf of the government junta, seeking an urgent meeting of the UN Security Council.

My conversation with President Lopez Portillo also dealt with Central America's complex situation, about which the Mexican Government has been very concerned. We reiterated our support for his international peace proposal, which is being discussed, and we talked about many aspects of Central American politics. The meeting was very friendly and fraternal. After this mission was accomplished, I returned. [end recording]

MEXICO'S CASTANEDA TO REPORT ON HAIG TALKS

PA191249 Paris AFP in Spanish 0419 GMT 19 Mar 82

[Text] Managua, 18 Mar (AFP) -- Mexican Foreign Secretary Jorge Castaneda, will go to Nicaragua next Monday to report to the Sandinist government on his recent meeting with Alexander Haig, U.S. secretary of state, it was officially announced tonight. The Mexican Embassy in Managua in a note to the press announced the Mexican foreign secretary would arrive to report to the Nicaraguan Government what he discussed with the top official of the Reagan administration.

The note says that Castaneda's report to the Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction deals with the conversations with Haig in Washington regarding a peace proposal for the Central American and Caribbean region announced in Managua by Mexican President Jose Lopez Portillo on 21 February.

These proposals include holding negotiations between the United States and Cuba, a peaceful solution to the Salvadoran conflict and for the United States not to carry out an armed aggression against Nicaragua.

On that occasion, President Lopez Portillo said that Mexico could act as a mediator in the Cuban-U.S. negotiations and between the conflicting parties in the Salvadoran crisis.

MINISTRY PROTESTS ARREST OF CITIZEN IN HONDURAS

PA192314 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 19 Mar 82

[Nicaraguan Foreign Ministry communique addressed to the Honduran Foreign Secretariat on 19 March]

[Text] Mr Secretary: I am addressing you to refer to the illegal and arbitrary arrest of Noel Ernesto Vasquez Gutierrez a Nicaraguan citizen who was under the diplomatic protection of the Nicaraguan Embassy in Honduras and had sought this protection because he was -- according to his own statements -- afraid for his life due to threats of death from a top Argentine [as heard] military officer. Vasquez Gutierrez said that he arrived in Honduras in October 1971 and was hired as a doctor by the counterrevolutionary groups that have bases in that country. He entered the country through the special means available to these groups in Honduras.

The Nicaraguan Government presents, through me, its most vigorous protest at the arrest of Vasquez Gutierrez, who was under the protection of the Nicaraguan Embassy and as such, should not have been arrested, as established in international law. The Honduran authorities had already been notified of this protection and had no objections to the Nicaraguan refugee's repatriation, as they had already stamped the travel document issued by our embassy. This incident is even more serious because Vasquez Gutierrez was accompanied by the Nicaraguan ambassador and was snatched away from him despite his protest over this violation of his diplomatic immunity.

The Nicaraguan Government holds the illustrious Honduran Government responsible for any attempt against the life and physical integrity of Vasquez Gutierrez, while demanding his immediate release and return to our embassy in Honduras. I take this opportunity to reiterate to Your Excellency my highest and most distinguished consideration. [Signed] Miguel d'Escoto Brockman, foreign minister.

RAMIREZ SAYS COUNTRY WILL DEFEND ITSELF ALONE

PA201400 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1315 GMT 20 Mar 82

[Excerpts] Managua, 20 Mar (ACAN-EFE) -- Sergio Ramirez Mercado, member of the Junta of the Sandinist Government of National Reconstruction, has said that "Nicaragua will not ask for Cuban or any other country's military aid in the event of an attack." Questioned yesterday at Augusto Cesar Sandino Airport in Managua on his return from Mexico, where he met with Mexican President Jose Lopez Portillo, Ramirez said in English to U.S. newsmen: "We are going to defend ourselves alone. We are ready to do so with all the resources that we have."

Ramirez said that Nicaragua is concerned because while Haig proposes negotiations, the Reagan administration "wields the weapon of aggression with greater force." According to Ramirez, Haig's proposal "does not contain any new points" compared with U.S. Under Secretary Thomas Enders' proposal in August to the Sandinist government. Nevertheless, Ramirez said this does not mean that Nicaragua rejects Haig's five points, but that it is willing to "carefully study" the proposal. However, he stressed that there is one unfeasible aspect. Ramirez said that the U.S. statement that Nicaragua must stop military aid to the Salvadoran guerrillas refers to "something that we have reiterated is not true."

Regarding the Nicaraguan request for a meeting of the UN Security Council, Ramirez said that this is something that the United States cannot veto because it is the right of nations to make this request. He indicated that Nicaragua is only waiting for a date to be set for Nicaragua to be heard. He also said that the Security Council meeting would permit Nicaragua to continue exhausting all the diplomatic channels in order to prevent U.S. military aggression. "We do not want to defeat aggression but to prevent it," Ramirez said.

HAVANA REPORTS U.S. WAR GAMES AT GUANTANAMO

PA191330 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 19 Mar 82

[Station commentary]

[Text] Since the arrival in office of U.S. President Ronald Reagan, social and political tension in the Caribbean has increased. In a few days, in April, the warlike and arrogant attitude of U.S. imperialism will be felt again with the Ocean Venture 82 war games, which include a landing at Guantanamo Naval Base, Cuban territory illegally occupied by Washington.

An announcement made by the Pentagon notes that the maneuvers will last several weeks and that Army, Air Force, Navy and Marine units will participate. Washington's decision to conduct landings in the Guantanamo area comes at a time when the Reagan government has increased its threats against Cuba, Nicaragua and Grenada and every day becomes more committed to a military adventure in El Salvador. The Ocean Venture 82 maneuvers will take place after the war games which the United States and other NATO members carried out in the Gulf of Mexico and the Florida Strait, near Cuban waters, where the Pentagon has stationed the Rapid Intervention Force in Tampa and Key West.

Approximately 10,000 men participated in these exercises, which were called "Safe Passage 82." In addition, the exercises involved 30 warships from the United States, Canada, Great Britain, the Netherlands, the FRG and Belgium, as well as 80 U.S. planes.

All these shows of force and threats against the region, especially against our country, can be added to the statements made by (Barbara Burry) -- advisor of U.S. Congressman from Florida Dante Fascell -- who said that the activities of the U.S. National Security Agency, specializing in electronic espionage, include the creation of radio monitoring centers, deciphering codes and sharing information with the CIA.

The United States attempts to justify this mobilization of resources with the phony pretext that Cuba represents a threat to the people of the Caribbean and Central America because of the arms which last year entered Cuban territory for the sole purpose of strengthening our defense in view of Washington's threats of direct intervention. It is obvious that the only force capable of representing a threat to the Caribbean and the whole world is the United States, which in addition to following a completely warmongering path, wants to drag its NATO allies along.

We have said this on many occasions, and we will say it again: Cuba, like any other country of the world, wants peace. It does not want and does not seek war. It loves peaceful coexistence under the principle of respect for sovereignty and complete self-determination. But this peace policy does not mean renouncing the right to prepare to resist and repell aggression from the United States, an option that is present in the halls of the State Department and the Pentagon.

Our doors have not been and will not be closed to unconditional and realistic dialogue, but they will also be a strong shield against Yankee aggressiveness and arrogance, and they will be an insurmountable obstacle to anyone trying to enter Cuba to wage war. As Fidel Castro, the leader of the Cuban revolution, has said, Cuba will be a hard bone to pick on because approximately 10 million Cubans are prepared to do everything necessary for their revolution.

NICARAGUA'S ORTEGA SENDS LETTER TO FIDEL CASTRO

FL201440 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1145 GMT 20 Mar 82

[Text] Commander of the Sandinist Revolution Daniel Ortega, coordinator of the Nicaraguan Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction, has sent a letter to Commander in Chief Fidel Castro, chairman of the Nonaligned Movement.

Following is the text: Your Excellency. Facing an imminent military intervention against Nicaragua and against the people of Central America, my government has requested an emergency meeting of the UN Security Council which I will personally attend in order to explain this situation which constitutes a serious threat to the independence and sovereignty of our countries, as well as to the peace and security of the region and the world. According to the UN Charter, the Security Council is obligated to adopt proper measures to prevent the imperialists' objectives from provoking a war of unforeseeable consequences and to create conditions which will promote the search for peaceful solutions to problems in the region through negotiations, such as Nicaragua and other governments have persistently recommended. We resort to the Security Council with that will for peace.

I want to assure you at the same time, Mr President, that if our efforts should fail, Nicaragua will know how to resist firmly and heroically any attack against its territory. And I am certain that the Central American peoples would repel any attempts to violate their sacred national rights wiht the same determination. I request your service in conveying this urgent message to the chiefs of state of all the nonaligned countries from whom we ask their needed solidarity at this decisive moment of our history. I am convinced that the nonaligned countries, inspired by the principles of our movement, will support our demands before the Security Council and will act energetically to prevent a war and preserve peace. Immediately after having received the letter yesterday, 19 March, the message was circulated to the chiefs of state or government of the Nonaligned Movement whom, in accordance with the principles and objectives of the movement, were urged to express support its charges before the Security Council.

CASTRO RECEIVES DPRK'S PREMIER, ATTENDS RECEPTION

FL191139 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 19 Mar 82

[Text] Commander in Chief Fidel Castro, first secretary of Cuba's Communist Party [PCC] Central Committee and president of the Councils of State and Ministers, last night attended the reception held at the Palace of the Revolution in honor of Yi Chong-ok, member of the Presidium of the Korean Workers' Party Politburo and prime minister of the Council of Administration of the DPRK. Others attending the reception hosted by the PCC Central Committee and Cuba's Council of State and Government were Army Gen Raul Castro, second secretary of the PCC and first vice president of the Councils of State and Ministers, and Politburo members Juan Almeida, Carlos Rafael Rodriguez, Osvaldo Dorticos, Sergio del Valle, Armando Hart and Julio Camacho Aguilera, as well as Foreign Minister Isidoro Malmierca and members of the diplomatic corps accredited to Cuba.

Commander in Chief Fidel Castro met yesterday with Comrade Yi Chong-ok and members of the delegation he heads. During the meeting, which was also attended by Carlos Rafael Rodriguez, the current international situation and matters dealing with the bilateral relations were discussed. Yi Chong-ok delivered to Fidel a message from Kim Il-song, secretary general of the Korean Workers' Party and president of the DPRK.

DPRK PARTY OFFICIAL VISITS ISLE OF YOUTH

FL192300 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2230 GMT 19 Mar 82

[Text] Yun Ki-pok, candidate member of the Korean Workers Party [KWP] Political Bureau and secretary of the KWP Central Committee, visited economic and social centers in the Isle of Youth today as part of a high level DPRK delegation's visit to Cuba. The Korean leader arrived in Nueva Gerona this morning in the company of Jose Ramon Fernandez, member of the Communist Party of Cuba [PCC] Central Committee and vice president of the Council of Ministers. He was received by Armando Acosta Manresa, alternate member of the PCC Central Committee and first party secretary in the special Isle of Youth municipality.

PANAMA

COLUMNIST SAYS HOPE FOR DEMOCRATIZATION GONE

PA212341 Panama City LA PRENSA in Spanish 19 Mar 82 p 1A

["As of Today" column]

[Text] Only a few days have gone by since the forced retirement of Colonel Florez, and the new commander of the National Guard has already made all sorts of statements on national and international matters. President Royo apparently has resigned himself to doing simple administrative work and to making some government decisions concerning local matters more suitable for a provincial governor or a mayor than of the chief of the executive branch. This is the same situation that existed when General Torrijos, exercising and abusing the provisional power provided by Article 277 of the Constitution of 1972, relegated then-President Lakas to insignificant administrative and protocal work. When Article 277 expired, Torrijos, forced by the commitment he acquired with U.S. senators whose votes were necessary for approving the canal treaties, announced the "withdrawal." The continuous interventions of the present commander of the National Guard in government matters leave no doubt that the "withdrawal" is over. With it, also ends the fragile hopes for a democratization because, regardless of the results of the 1984 elections, the present, or any other future commander of the National Guard, will be the one who will continue governing over the government with complete disregard for a de jure state. This proves that the public force, powerful because of its arms, is institutionally weak because it remains at the service of the personal interests and ambitions of whoever directs it.

NICARAGUA'S D'ESCOTO REPORTEDLY MEETS WITH ROYO

PA210020 Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish 0005 GMT 21 Mar 82

[Text] Although there has been no official confirmation or denial of the news, this station is in a position to confirm that Nicaraguan Foreign Minister Miguel d'Escoto is in Panama for official talks concerning Nicaragua's request for an extraordinary meeting of the UN Security Council to submit its complaint on a supposed U.S. invasion of Nicaragua. Televisora Nacional has learned that the Nicaraguan foreign minister had lunch with President Aristides Royo today and that Panamanian Foreign Minister Jorge Illueca and Carlos Ozores, Panamanian ambassador to the United Nations, were called in later.

SURINAME

STATE OF WAR IN EFFECT SINCE 11 MARCH DECREE

FL191802 Bridgetown CANA in English 1601 GMT 19 Mar 82

[Excerpt] Paramaribo, Suriname, 19 Mar (CANA) -- Army strongman Lt-Col Deysi Bouterse disclosed here last night that Suriname has been under a state of war since March 11, the day dissident soldiers tried to topple his administration. He said that the state of war was declared by decree.

Bouterse also announced that a special military court, comprising army officers, had been established. He said it has the power to pronounce death sentences on civilians or military personnel found guilty of taking part in or intending to take part in armed rebellion to overthrow the lawful authority. The announcements were made in radio and television broadcasts.

Both decrees were issued the same day, signed by the military authorities and the minister of home affairs, Mr Frank Leeglang. He hoped the measures would be short-lived.